Technology Meeting

September 5, 2012

5:30 – 7:00 PM

In Attendance: Ann Whyle, Patti Lewis, Ali Rost, Mark Stuhlreyer, Craig Phillips, Dan Stringer, Kerry Crone, Father Dennis, Marianna Kuhn, and Micki Harrell.

* Marianna led a discussion to gather information for budgeting new technology for the school and parish. With input from Craig, Dan and Ali, decisions will be based on the age of equipment and software. It was decided that ½ of the school computer lab will be replaced now and the other ½ in spring, 2013. On a rotating schedule Craig will filter computers out of the lab into classrooms and make decisions about disposals. Marianna, based on budgets will make decisions about spending for replacement equipment and software in the parish offices. For computers, recycling will be after 6 years to be completed in a 3 year cycle. The school budget is separate from the parish budget.
* Dan has purchased Smart boards for classrooms (8-9?) with the final goal of every classroom having a smart board. He also purchased net gear for Mrs. Fox and Mrs. St Aubyn. Additionally, staff development will be included for smart boards.
* Craig reported that our servers are in very good shape. We are also going to upgrade our wireless capabilities on the whole campus with 16 AP units. Marianna has approved this in the budget.
* Craig and Mark: We have upgraded from Cincinnati Bell to fiber optic and we now have control over our own system. Craig explained that our filtering system is tightened up so that it will be more difficult for students to inadvertently run into inappropriate content. SMS also has a SSL certificate making it protected.

**SMS Updates**

* Graphs being visible to students/parents: Is this appropriate from a teacher standpoint? Is this appropriate from a parent perspective?
* We will not go backwards and eliminate graphing tool, but the discussion stays active between administration, Contingent (Mark and Craig) and teachers to meet a consensus on what parents and students will/should see on SMS. Discussion between all stakeholders is an area where we need to make more progress. In other words, before changes occur in SMS an education process including teachers and parents will be implemented.
* A survey 2011-12 conveying parent input and recommendations was distributed by Craig.
* Also, an SMS dashboard is in the works for administration.
* Ali reported that at times teachers could not get on SMS.

**Website**

Micki updated everyone on website progress. She is combing the site for outdated information and streamlining the process to keep end users clicking as few times as possible to get to content. She employed a website committee for input and is using recommendations to make changes. Micki would like to be able to add more pictures. Mark feels that we are on track with the needs of the website.

Finally,

Mark described a parish wiki where all content related to technology and other concerns will be available for contributors.

Mark also recommended the creation of an education commission.